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Federal-Student Ties Face Probe

President Acts Amid Accusations Of Draft Deferments, Secret Fund-Channeling

CPYRGHT

By PAUL W. WARD

[Washington Bureau of The Sun]

Washington, Feb. 15 — President Johnson initiated today an investigation aimed at finding and stopping any Federal Government operations which may be eroding "the integrity and independence of the education community."

Inspired in part by a disclosure yesterday that the Central Intelligence Agency until recently had been subsidizing overseas operations of the biggest of American student associations, the Chief Executive's decision was anounced by Nicholas Katzenbach, Under Secretary of State.

Draft Deferments

The statement followed within hours of unofficial reports that the Government's chief espionage agency had secretly channeled funds to three other student groups.

As the furor mushroomed, there were charges and denials that officers had been granted draft deferments.

Meanwhile, congressional critics of the CIA stepped up their demands for some form of parliamentary surveillance over its operations.

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Representative Perkins (D., Ky.) announced, as chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, that it will investigate the CIA's relations with the National Student Association that it began subsidizing in 1952 and hopes to have by this month's end full reports from both the N.S.A. and the intelligence agency.

And Senator McCarthy (D., Minn.) announced—after receiving a phone call from the CIA's director, whom he described as "unhappy," "distressed" and "worried"—that he will move for creation of a special Senate committee to investigate CIA involvement with not only student groups but private foundations, publishing, broadcasting, university research, and labor organizations.

In a statement issued at 4 P.M., Katzenbach said:

"The President believes strongly that the integrity and independence of the education community must be preserved. He has directed a careful review of any Government activities that may endanger this integrity and independence.

"He has further directed me in consulation with Secretary [of Health, Education and Welfare] John Gardner and [CIA] director Richard Helms to formulate a policy which will provide necessary guidance for Government agencies in their relationship to the international activities of American educational organizations."

Katzenbach's statement left open the possibility the review would extend also into government subsidies of private organizations outside the academic field.

"The President recognizes the great need of America's private organizations to participate in the world community," Katzenbach's statement said.

Playing A Proper Role

Katzenbach said other countries subsidize such activities, adding "he (Johnson) has asked me to explore means for assuring that United States organizations play their proper and vital role."

Meanwhile, Representative Kastenmeier (D., Wis.) said top officers of the N.S.A. automatically received a 2A occupational draft deferment. "It goes with the job," he said.

And *Ramparts* magazine said the CIA provided draft deferments for N.S.A. leaders despite acceleration of the Vietnam war.

An N.S.A. spokesman denied the charges, saying the group's top two officers are classifed 1A. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, the Selective Service director, declined comment. But a Selective Service spokesman said "six of these men in N.S.A. have their classifications under appeal."

Newspaper Disclosure

A Washington newspaper, the *Evening Star*, reported the CIA has supplied millions of dollars to [illegible] organizations in addition to the N.S.A. It identified the three others as the United States Youth Council, with headquarters in New York; the World Assembly of Youth in Brussels, Belgium; and the International Student Conference in Leiden, Netherlands.

The *Ramparts* magazine article appears in the March issue, not due on the newsstands until next week. Besides raising the issue of draft deferments, it said the CIA was so involved secretly with N.S.A.'s international program "that it treated N.S.A. as an arm of United States foreign policy."

In another development today before Katzenbach's announcement, Richard Stearns, N.S.A. vice president for international affairs, said that, as a result of yesterday's disclosure it had felt compelled to recall the only American studying under its sponsorship in a Communist-ruled country.

But the United States Embassy at Warsaw, whose aid to that end had been enlisted through the State Department, according to Stearns, denied it had told the student—Roger S. Pulver, 22, of Culver City, Cal.—to leave Poland. A spokesman said Pulver, was only one of 23 American students in Poland under official programs and his present whereabouts were unknown to the embassy.

Tax-Exempt Status

And the Young Americans for Freedom, describing itself as "the nation's largest conservative youth group," issued a statement here calling the N.S.A. "a left-wing group with consistently radical positions" and asking for a congressional investigation to determine why the CIA would subsidize such an organization.

"We are absolutely astounded to discover that Federal funds in huge amounts have been placed in the hands of irresponsible leftists who do not represent American students," the statement said, adding:

"We call for an immediate and full congressional investigation of this matter, as well as an Internal Revenue Service review of the tax-exempt status of N.S.A."

Official disclosure that the CIA had been subsidizing N.S.A.'s overseas operations from 1952 until last January 1 followed local publication yesterday of a full-page newspaper advertisement by *Ramparts* magazine.

The California monthly announced that its March issue "will document how the CIA has infiltrated and subverted the world of American student leaders over the past fifteen years . . . (and) has used students to spy."

In making the lengthy article available in advance, the *Ramparts* editor, Warren Hinckle said: "In view of the intense national interest and the importance of the subject, we are setting aside our publishing prerogatives and releasing the text of the story as a national service so there will be an opportunity for full and frank open discussion by all concerned."

Ramparts's account of the CIA-N.S.A. link is based primarily on an account given by Michael Wood, 23, fund raising chief of the student organization. In turn, Wood quotes at length from an operational fill-in he says he received last March from Phil Sherburne, National Student Association president for 1965-1966.

The two got together at a Washington restaurant, Wood says, because he was running into roadblocks trying to raise money for the student group.

Ramparts's account continues: "Sherburne began by telling Wood that N.S.A. had 'certain relationshpis with certain Government agencies engaged

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